

SENATE BILL 891

C8

11r2952

By: **Senator Edwards**

Introduced and read first time: February 21, 2011

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Economic Development – Qualified Distressed Counties**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of “qualified distressed county” for certain
4 purposes, including the Maryland Economic Development Assistance Authority
5 and Fund, the Linked Deposit Program, the One Maryland Economic
6 Development Tax Credit, and the College Readiness Outreach Program; and
7 generally relating to the definition of “qualified distressed county” for certain
8 economic development purposes in the State.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
10 Article – Economic Development
11 Section 1–101(a) and (b)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2008 Volume and 2010 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article – Economic Development
16 Section 1–101(e)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2008 Volume and 2010 Supplement)

19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
20 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

21 **Article – Economic Development**

22 1–101.

23 (a) In this division the following words have the meanings indicated.

24 (b) “County” means a county of the State or Baltimore City.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (e) (1) “Qualified distressed county” means a county with:

2 (i) an average rate of unemployment for the most recent
3 24-month period for which data are available that exceeds 150% of the average rate of
4 unemployment for the State during that period; or

5 (ii) an average per capita personal income for the most recent
6 24-month period for which data are available that is equal to or less than 67% of the
7 average per capita personal income for the State during that period.

8 (2) “Qualified distressed county” includes a county that:

9 (i) no longer meets either criterion stated in paragraph (1) of
10 this subsection; but

11 (ii) has met at least one of the criteria at some time during the
12 preceding [12-month] **24-MONTH** period.

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
14 July 1, 2011.